

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 were examined and reported in the Office Action. Claims 1, 2, 5-8, 12 and 13 are rejected. Claims 3 and 9 are canceled. Claims 1, 5, 7 and 12 are amended. New claims 14 - 20 are added. Claims 1, 2, 4 – 8 and 10-20 remain.

Applicant requests reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks.

I. In the Drawings

Figure 1A was objected to in the Office Action. Applicant has amended Figure 1A to overcome the drawing objections. A replacement sheet of Figure 1A is included with this response. Approval is respectfully requested.

II. 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

It is asserted in the Office Action that claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant has amended claim 5 to overcome the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejections.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph rejection for claim 5 is respectfully requested.

III. 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

It is asserted in the Office Action that claims 1, 2, 6-8, 12 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e), as being anticipated by U. S. Patent No. 6,710,662 issued to Wang ("Wang"). Applicant respectfully traverses the aforementioned rejection for the following reasons.

It is asserted in the Office Action that claims 3, 4 and 9-11 would be allowable if placed in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has amended claim 1 to include the limitations of claim

3. Applicant has amended claim 7 to include the limitations of claim 9. Applicant has also amended claim 12 similarly to claim 1. Additionally, new claim 14 contains the limitations of original claims 1 and 4; new claim 19 contains the limitations of original claims 7 and 10; and new claim 20 contains the limitations of original claims 7 and 11. Therefore, the 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) rejections are now moot.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) rejections for claims 1, 2, 6-8, 12 and 13 are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 1, 2, 4-8 and 10-20 patentably define the subject invention over the cited references of record, and are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited at the earliest possible date. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would be useful in moving the case forward, he is encouraged to contact the undersigned at (310) 207-3800.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly, extension of time fees.

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Per 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) and in connection with the Office Action mailed on September 28, 2004, Applicant respectfully petitions the Commissioner for a two (2) month extension of time, extending the period for response to February 28, 2005. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 02-2666 in the amount of \$225.00 to cover the petition filing fee for a 37 C.F.R. 1.17(a)(2) large entity. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

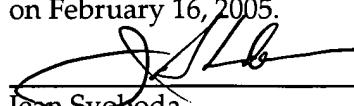
Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: February 16, 2005
By: 
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on February 16, 2005.


Jean Svoboda